



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
STATE OF FLORIDA

March 4, 2009

ALEX SINK

The Honorable Jeff Atwater, Senate President
Florida Senate
409 The Capitol, 404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

The Honorable Larry Cretul, House Speaker
Florida House of Representatives
420 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Jerry McDaniel, Director
Office of Policy and Budget
Executive Office of the Governor
PL 05 The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Senate President Atwater, House Speaker Cretul, and Director McDaniel:

Please find enclosed my initial recommendations to maximize federal funding to the State of Florida, as requested by Senate Bill 44A in January 2009.

This report, which found that Florida ranks 45th in the nation in per capita federal grants funding, offers ten preliminary recommendations intended to enhance coordination among key state agencies and increase awareness of the federal grant process.

Primary among the ten recommendations was our finding that Florida lacks effective and proactive systems to maximize the draw down of federal grants. Florida also has not been providing the matching state funds necessary to receiving many of the federal grants.

Some immediate steps that can be taken to increase Florida's ability to draw down these funds include:

- Moving the State Clearinghouse for grant approval from the Department of Environmental Protection to the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget (OPB);
- Expanding the membership of the Clearinghouse to include the CFO, or his or her designee, and representatives from the Florida Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Regulation (LCIR);

- Enhancing the visibility and effectiveness of the Florida Washington Office by requiring coordination between it, the Clearinghouse within OPB, the LCIR, and the Chief Financial Officer;
- Authorizing the Legislative Budget Commission to approve state agency expenditure of federal funds received when the Legislature is not in session; and
- Requiring the Washington Office to produce an annual report to the Legislature detailing its performance and accomplishments in enhancing federal grant funding.

In preparing this report, my office researched Florida Statutes governing the state's current receipt of federal funding, existing structures and policies in place for the receipt of federal funds, and the state's performance compared to other states in drawing down federal grant funds. We also asked each state agency to provide critical information regarding their performance in drawing down federal grant funding and if there are programmatic or budgetary obstacles preventing the agencies from maximizing the amount of federal funding received by the state.

My staff and I are available to meet with you regarding these critical recommendations. Thank you for your commitment to increasing federal funding to benefit Florida's citizens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Sink", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alex Sink
Chief Financial Officer
State of Florida

Initial Recommendations for Maximizing Federal Funding for the State of Florida

*Alex Sink
Chief Financial Officer
State of Florida*

*Department of Financial Services
March 3, 2009*

Purpose of Report

During the January 2009 Special Session, the Florida Legislature directed the Chief Financial Officer to offer recommendations for the maximization of federal funding to the State of Florida. Specifically, Section 5 of Senate Bill 44A requires:

“The Chief Financial Officer, as head of the Department of Financial Services, shall consider methods to ensure that state agencies receive the maximum amount of federal funds to which the state is entitled based on the services it currently provides. The Chief Financial Officer shall make initial recommendations to the Office of Policy and Budget and the legislative appropriations committees by March 3, 2009.”

The legislation also requires state agencies to review their operations in an effort to maximize federal funding, although it should be noted this directive lacks a specified timeframe.

While the federal government sends billions of dollars in direct expenditures to the State of Florida, the majority of this aid consists of direct payments to individuals for retirement and disability. For the purposes of this report, the Department of Financial Services (DFS) focused exclusively on federal grants, which are received by state agencies to develop infrastructure and provide services to the people of Florida.

This report offers a number of preliminary recommendations for the Governor and Legislature to consider that are intended to enhance coordination among key state agencies and increase awareness of the federal grant process and the amount of federal grant funding received by the state.

In preparing this report, DFS researched Florida Statutes governing the state’s current receipt of federal funding, existing structures and policies in place for the receipt of federal funds, and the state’s performance compared to other states in drawing down federal grant funds. DFS also asked each state agency to provide:

- The names of their staff who monitor the agency’s sources of federal funding;
- The total amount of federal assistance awarded to each agency during the last state fiscal year;
- Obstacles to the awarding of additional federal financial assistance, both programmatic and budgetary; and
- The agency’s perspective on how they could best draw down the maximum federal financial assistance available.

Agency responses are contained in Appendix 1 of this report. A short summary of the federal “Grants.gov” Web site is contained in Appendix 2.

Special thanks are given to the staff of the Florida Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations for their prior research and all agency staff who provided timely information to aid with the compilation of this report.

Florida's Federal Grant Funding

The State of Florida and its residents received \$147 billion in direct expenditures from the federal government in federal fiscal year 2007, the 4th highest of all the states.¹ On a per capita basis, Florida ranks only 29th among the states in total federal expenditures.² The vast majority of these funds represent payments to individuals for retirement and disability, Medicare benefits, Unemployment Compensation, Food Stamps, and salaries and wages. Largely, this is due to the significant percentage of Florida's residents who are eligible for these federally-mandated benefits or who currently work or previously worked for the federal government. However, despite leading the nation in 2004 in the percentage of its population who are elders,³ Florida still lags below more than two dozen states in receiving these types of federal funds.

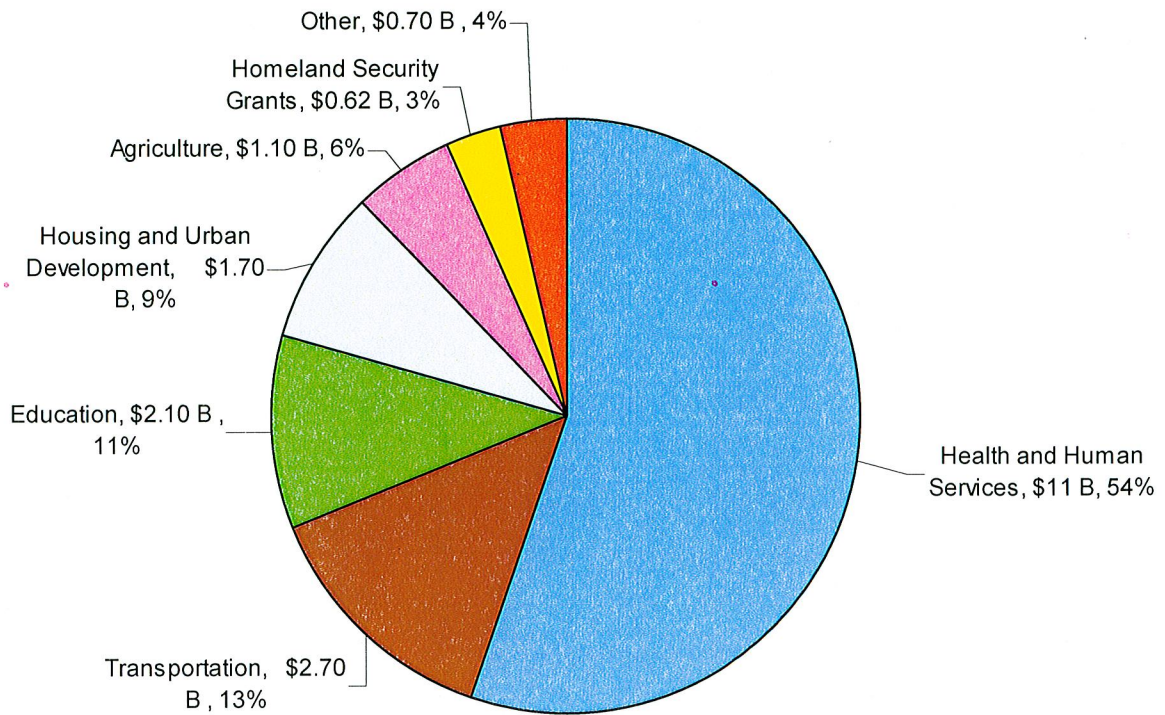
A more accurate assessment of the state's performance at drawing down federal funding can be found by analyzing its receipt of federal grant funding. Federal grant expenditures represent a crucial source of state and local government income used for improving infrastructure and the provision of state and local services. In 2007, Florida's state and local governments received \$20 billion, once again ranking 4th in the nation for the total amount received. However, analyzing Florida's large population reveals these funds represent only \$1,098 per capita, which places the state 45th in the nation for drawing down federal grants. The majority of these grants, \$11 billion, provide health and human services funding for Floridians; however, Florida ranks 46th in the nation in drawing down these funds on a per capita basis.

¹ Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations (LCIR), Review of Federal Funding to Florida in Fiscal Year 2007. (Tallahassee: The State of Florida, 2008) i.

² *Ibid.*

³ Florida Department of Elder Affairs, The State of Aging in Florida- A Monograph and Needs Assessment. 2004. 03 Mar. 2009 < <http://elderaffairs.state.fl.us/english/pubs/stats/StateOfAging.pdf> > 113.

Fiscal Year 2007 Florida Grants Expenditures by Governmental Area



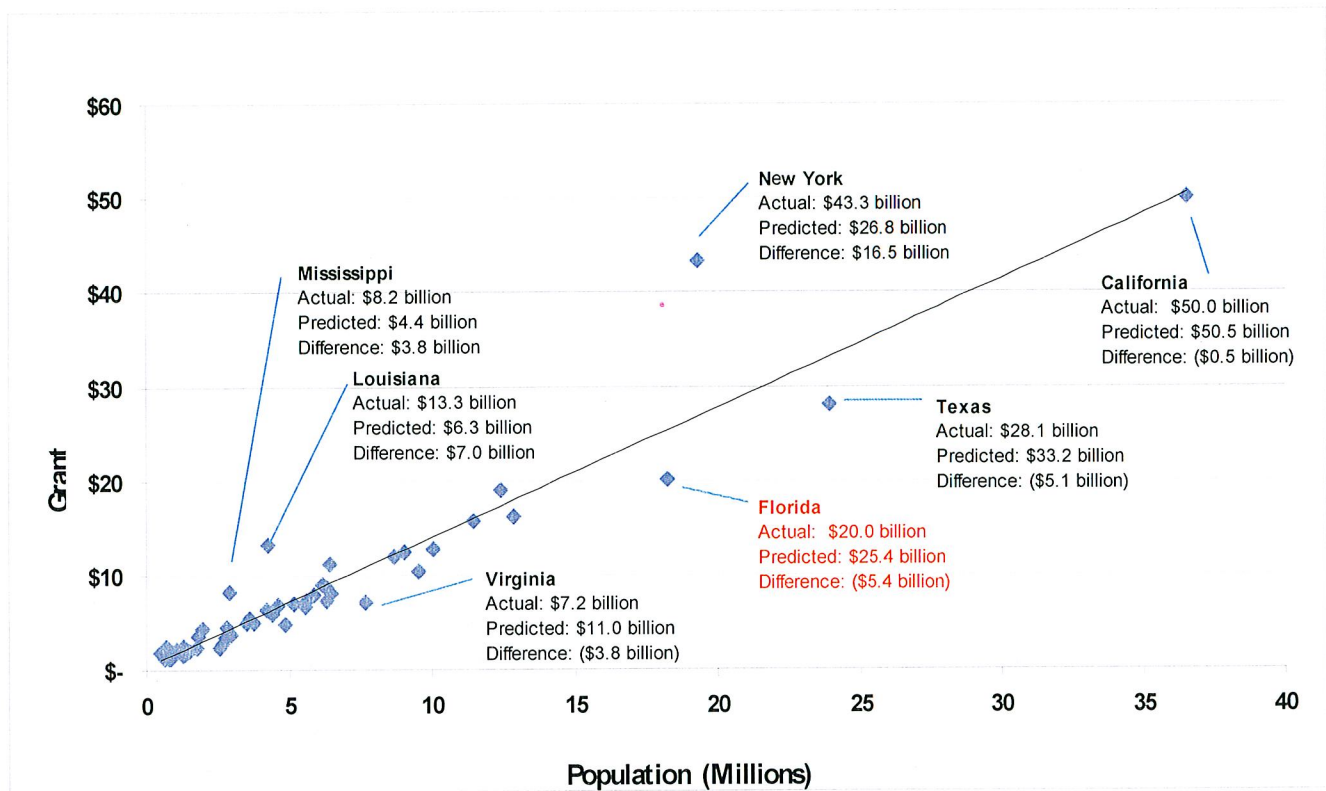
As previously mentioned, federal grants provide essential funding for state and local government infrastructure and services. Federal assistance to Florida represented nearly 30 percent of state government revenue during the 2006-2007 fiscal year.⁴ However, consider Florida's rank of 45th among the states in per capita federal grants funding. At \$1,098 per capita, Florida received 77 percent of the national average.⁵ Had Florida received the national average in per capita grants for the 2007 fiscal year, or \$1,429 per capita, lawmakers could have appropriated an additional \$6 billion in federal grants.⁶

⁴ Florida Revenue Estimating Conference, Revenue Analysis FY 1970-71 through FY 2017-2018 42 (2008): 3.

⁵ LCIR v.

⁶ *Ibid.*

Fiscal Year 2007 Grants Expenditures Per Capita Relative to National Average



Statutory Guidelines Regarding Federal Funding

Section 216.212, Florida Statutes, directs the Executive Office of the Governor and the Office of the Chief Financial Officer “to develop and implement procedures for accelerating the drawdown of, and minimizing the payment of interest on, federal funds.”

Additionally, the Governor’s office is required to “establish a clearinghouse for federal programs and activities.” This clearinghouse is charged with responding to federal grant opportunities and coordinating the use of federal funds in the state. The clearinghouse also reviews all grant applications from state agencies, community colleges and universities.

Florida’s Clearinghouse

Pursuant to s. 216.212, F.S., the state of Florida is required to operate a Clearinghouse for the review of state grant applications for all federal funding. In 1995, an Executive Order by Governor Lawton Chiles established the state’s Clearinghouse, or Single Point of Contact (SPOC), within the Department of

Community Affairs.⁷ Governor Jeb Bush in 2002 subsequently moved the Clearinghouse to the Department of Environmental Protection.⁸

One of the Clearinghouse's primary roles is "to serve as the state's single review point for federal assistance applications."⁹ State agencies, including public universities and community colleges, are required to submit federal grant applications to the Clearinghouse to receive necessary approvals for the intended project. Feedback is provided through a clearance letter given to the requesting state agency, and this letter tells the applicant if additional information is needed to supplement the application, in addition to any concerns, mistakes, or information on receiving permits if applicable to the project. The Clearinghouse also reviews applications that require federal consistency, such as in the case of new construction or environmental projects.

The Clearinghouse's manual states that the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget participates in the Clearinghouse process to "ensure that the Governor's role as chief planning officer of the state is preserved."¹⁰ The Office of Policy and Budget, and if needed the Governor, are charged with resolving potential conflicts that might arise between the agency applicant and the Clearinghouse reviewer.

The Clearinghouse Web site advises that although it "functions as the state central review point for federal assistance applications, it is not directly involved with the federal application process and does not maintain current information on upcoming federal deadlines or specific grant requirements."¹¹ Thus, there does not appear to be an office in Florida that is proactively keeping track of upcoming grants and federal funding opportunities and promoting these grants to the appropriate state agencies. Indeed, the Florida Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations has reported that "Florida may not be aggressively pursuing all federal grant opportunities."¹²

The Florida Washington Office

The state maintains an office in Washington, D.C. for the purpose of increasing communication and coordination between the state and federal government. Section 14.23, F.S., establishes a Florida Washington Office to represent both the legislative and executive branches, with one of the intended objectives as the maximization of the state's federal funding. Duties of the Florida Washington Office are to be established by the governor, in consultation with legislative leaders; however, s. 14.23(2)(b)2., F.S. specifically states the office shall: "...provide grants assistance and advice to state agencies."

⁷ Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Florida State Clearinghouse, "Background of the Clearinghouse" Policy and Procedures Manual. 03 Mar. 2009 <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/oip/state_clearinghouse/manual2.htm>.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ DEP, Florida State Clearinghouse, "Function of the Clearinghouse" Policy and Procedures Manual. 03 Mar. 2009 <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/oip/state_clearinghouse/manual2.htm>.

¹⁰ DEP, "Background of the Clearinghouse" Policy and Procedures Manual.

¹¹ DEP, Florida State Clearinghouse, "How to Find and Apply for Federal Funding" Policy and Procedures Manual. 03 Mar. 2009 <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/secretary/oip/state_clearinghouse/manual2.htm>.

¹² LCIR, v.

The Web site for the Executive Office of the Governor states that “The Florida Washington Office serves as a fulltime, Washington based representative for Florida’s interests. The office enables State government to be kept fully and accurately informed, to develop federal legislative strategy for State concerns, and to coordinate activities with the Florida Congressional delegation. The office serves State officials and program managers by getting clarification on federal regulations. In addition, the office provides assistance to State officials on business travel in the Washington area.”¹³

With resources directly in the nation’s Capital, the Florida Washington Office appears to be uniquely poised to take a proactive role in informing state agencies about potential federal grant opportunities and advocating on their behalf to the federal government. However, it appears that the Washington Office does not regularly coordinate with the Clearinghouse regarding federal grant opportunities for Florida.

Florida Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

The Florida Legislature established a Joint Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations (LCIR) that “facilitates the development of intergovernmental policies and practices. The Florida LCIR strives to improve coordination and cooperation among state agencies, local governments, and the federal government.”¹⁴ The LCIR has fifteen members, with eight who are state legislators and seven appointed by the governor. The Committee alternates chairs, with Senator Tony Hill serving as Chair and Representative James Frishe as Vice Chair.

The LCIR produces several reports each year, including the Local Government Financial Information Handbook, and has reviewed policies surrounding federal and state relations and Florida’s federal funding. In the *Review of Federal Funding to Florida in Fiscal Year 2007*, published in December 2008, the LCIR recommended many policy changes to increase the amount of federal funding received by the state. Many of these recommendations are reiterated in this report and include increasing coordination among offices and taking a more proactive approach for the maximization of federal grant funds. The LCIR is an excellent resource on this subject and could be more actively involved in assisting state agencies and local governments in the application for federal grants.

Initial Conclusions

It appears that the fundamental problem facing the state is a lack of active coordination by and between the Executive and Legislative branches. There is limited coordination between state agencies, the Clearinghouse/SPOC, and the Florida Washington Office. The location of the Clearinghouse within the Department of Environmental Protection seems ill-suited to meet the needs of other state agencies. Its role as a passive conduit for application assistance may not serve the state well. Moreover, while the Chief Financial Officer serves as the state’s comptroller and treasurer and has a shared duty with the

¹³ Executive Office of the Governor, “Summary of Functions.” 03 Mar. 2009 <http://www.flgov.com/summary_functions>.

¹⁴ LCIR, “What is LCIR?” *Review of Federal Funding to Florida in Fiscal Year 2007*. (Tallahassee: The State of Florida, 2008).

Governor to enhance the drawdown of federal dollars to the state, she has no statutory authority to coordinate with the Clearinghouse or the Florida Washington Office.

The LCIR has done extensive analysis of how state and local government spends federal funds and has a wealth of information to impart to stakeholders. And yet despite thorough reports and recommendations on the issue of the drawdown of federal funds, little appears to have been done to enhance Florida's system for identifying and responding to new federal grant opportunities.

Based on a review of the agency responses summarized in Appendix 1, the primary issues surrounding the state's process for drawing down additional federal grants appear to relate to the state budget process, which is not aligned with the federal fiscal year. In addition, it appears that there is no flexible way for the state to authorize agencies to spend federal dollars (i.e., though enhanced authority for the Legislative Budget Commission).

Initial Recommendations

The CFO's initial finding, which is at the heart of this report, is that the State of Florida does not have effective, proactive systems in place to maximize the draw down of federal grants. However, the CFO has identified some immediate steps that can be taken to increase Florida's ability to draw down these funds.

The CFO recommends that the Governor and Legislature consider the following:

1. Move the Clearinghouse from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (OPB). This would place the state's single-point-of-contact in the executive office that coordinates the entire state budget, as opposed to being housed in a state agency with limited jurisdiction. As noted previously, the DEP's own Web site makes clear that the Clearinghouse function is passive. The CFO believes the state Clearinghouse should serve as a proactive, informationally-rich resource for state government.
2. Include the CFO, or his or her designee, on the Clearinghouse. The CFO has a statutory duty to increase the drawdown of federal funds, but has no ability to perform that function unless he or she can formally coordinate with the Clearinghouse.
3. Include representatives of the Florida Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations on the Clearinghouse. The staff of LCIR actively and regularly monitors local and state government receipt of federal funds and could serve as a feedback loop from the Legislature to the Clearinghouse on the state's performance in this area.
4. Enhance the visibility and effectiveness of the Washington Office by requiring coordination between it, the Clearinghouse within OPB, the LCIR, and the Chief Financial Officer.
5. Require the LCIR to perform regular reviews of state agencies that receive federal funds to identify ways that these agencies may enhance the drawdown of these funds.

6. Increase coordination between the state and the Florida Congressional Delegation to improve advocacy activity in Congress.
7. As recommended by Florida TaxWatch,¹⁵ consider contracting with third parties that can perform comprehensive evaluations of federal funding opportunities for specific state agencies.
8. Update federal funding formulas need to be updated to reflect population data from the upcoming 2010 Census. Florida should take steps to ensure the most accurate Census count possible, which should be advantageous for the state.
9. Authorize the Legislative Budget Commission to approve state agency expenditure of federal funds received, which will increase flexibility in the use of federal grant funding.
10. Require the Florida Washington Office to produce an annual report to the Legislature detailing its performance and accomplishments in enhancing federal grant funding.

¹⁵ Florida TaxWatch, Budget Watch: Constructive Ideas to Help Florida Address the Budget Shortfall 15.1 (2009):

Appendix 1

Agency Responses to CFO Request for Information

Agency for Health Care Administration

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$8,624,291,531

Contact: Federal funding is monitored by the Bureau of Finance and Accounting Grants, which consists of the following team members: Linda Downey; Andy Collins; Marsha Wright; and Henry Evans. For questions, contact Janet Parramore, Director of Administrative Services, at (850) 488-1417.

Programmatic Obstacles: While there are none immediately present, if there is a change in the way federal financial assistance is awarded, the agency and legislature would need to make adjustments to the state budget through the state-specific process which could delay the award or receipt of funding.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Agency for Persons with Disabilities

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$42,551,063

Contact: Steve Dunaway monitors the Person Centered Planning Implementation Grant; J.B. Black monitors the Medicaid Infrastructure Grant, Self-Employment of Adults and Youths with Disabilities; Denise Arnold and Terri McGarrity monitor the Social Services Block Grant and Dawn McWilliams monitors Medicaid Administration. For questions, contact Dawn McWilliams at (850) 414-8665.

Programmatic Obstacles: None.

Budgetary Obstacles: There is a limited ability to provide adequate state general revenue for federal matching.

Agency for Workforce Innovation

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$842,561,953

Contact: Jim Doyal, Grants Manager, monitors federal funds for the agency. For questions, contact Kevin Thompson at (850) 245-7335.

Programmatic Obstacles: None.

Budgetary Obstacles: For some programs, there are not enough state matching dollars to earn all of the available federal funding.

Attorney General

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$42,777,593.39

Contact: John Hamilton, Director of Budget and Administration, monitors federal funding for the department. He may be reached at (850) 413-3300.

Programmatic Obstacles: Sometimes the department applies for grants but does not win them in the competitive process.

Budgetary Obstacles: It is difficult to meet federal grant requirements for state matching funds.

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$30,421,438

Contact: Leslie Palmer-Boxold and Carole Strange monitor federal grants for the department. They may be reached at (850) 410-6723.

Programmatic Obstacles: The department has come across problems that prevent it from being able to use federal funding in a timely manner. First, the need to obtain spending authority in the state budget delays the time when the funds are first available for use by the department. Additionally, the lack of

alignment between state and federal fiscal years makes funding allocation difficult. The combination of the difference in fiscal years and need to obtain authority from the legislature shrinks the window in which funds can be used. Also, there is limited federal funding available for programs (e.g., regarding food safety, the FDA has been underfunded for years).

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Department of Business and Professional Regulation

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$0

Contact: N. Jean Whitten, Director, Budget and Financial Management, monitors federal funding for the department and may be reached at (850) 921-0890.

Programmatic Obstacles: None.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Department of Children and Family Services

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$1,511,505,622

Contact: Angie Boyer, Staff Director for Revenue Management, monitors federal funding for the department and may be reached at (850) 921-8181.

Programmatic Obstacles: The department reports that the process for receiving budgetary authority from the legislature severely delays when the department can actually spend the funds.

Budgetary Obstacles: Cuts in revenue continue to jeopardize ability to receive federal funding because of state matching and maintenance of effort. The department stresses the need for more state funds for state matching and maintenance of effort requirements.

Department of Citrus

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$6,100,000

Contact: Mike Yetter, International Marketing Director, monitors MAP funds and Alice Wiggins monitors federal funds. They may be reached at (863) 499-2500.

Programmatic Obstacles: The department reports difficulties with the funding level of the Market Access Program (USDA Foreign Agricultural Services) in the federal Farm Bill, the ability to match federal funds with grower taxes, and the ability to conduct effective programs to export Florida citrus products.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Department of Community Affairs

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$181,404,412

Contact: Jacquelyn Dupree, Community Programs Manager, (850) 922-1879; Paula Lemmo, Community Programs Manager, (850) 922-1844; and Shawna Beji, Walker Banning, Sandy Meyer and Beth Frost (Division of Community Planning) monitor federal funding for the Department.

Programmatic Obstacles: The state budget amendment process required for release of funds is very lengthy and limited. A guaranteed legislative budget request meeting in November or December of each fiscal year and a change in statute to allow fixed capital outlay by a legislative budget request action, not just special session, would provide state authority in a time frame more in line with federal fiscal year cycles.

Budgetary Obstacles: There are no state dollars for Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP); Federal funds under LIHEAP are disproportionately allocated among the states because there is a bias towards cold-weather states in the distribution formula; some funds are sub-granted

through the Department of Environmental Protection and Agency cannot provide state-matching dollars from existing resources if the DEP cannot come through with those funds.

Department of Corrections

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$32,233,896.32

Contact: Staff from the following five budgetary categories monitor federal funds: Security & Institutional Operations, Community Corrections, Health Services, Education & Programs and Administration, and they may be reached at (850) 488-7480.

Programmatic Obstacles: Recent reductions to education and substance abuse funding could become a major obstacle for the department with regard to the Second Chance Act or other federal funding. Additionally, the needs of the agency do not always meet up with the focus or purpose of the federal grant, which results in the agency missing out of some of the federal grant awards.

Budgetary Obstacles: There is a lack of availability of matching funds.

Department of Education

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$2,373,673,234.28

Contact: Linda Champion, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Operations, and Martha Asbury, Director Administrative Services, monitor federal funding and may be reached at (850) 245-0505.

Programmatic Obstacles: Reductions in agency staffing strips resources to develop competitive proposals to attract federal funding. Additionally, it is difficult to create new positions to implement new federal programs when staffing is limited. Also, when it comes to the requirements outlined in federal grant opportunities, state needs and federal priorities do not always match up. Lastly, the difference in state and federal fiscal years makes it difficult to use federal funding in a timely manner.

Budgetary Obstacles: Reductions to state funding threatens states ability to match federal dollars and meet requirements to receive federal dollars.

Department of Elder Affairs

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$122,807,358

Contact: Mindy Sollisch, Chief of Planning and Evaluation, monitors federal funding, along with Jay Breeze, Government Analyst, who may be reached at (850) 414-2338, and Abbie Messer, Senior Management Analyst, who may be reached at (850) 414-2000.

Programmatic Obstacles: The department is a small one, and the staff is stretched thin; if additional federal funds were to come to the department, there would be a need for additional staffing to manage the grants.

Budgetary Obstacles: There are insufficient state matching dollars available.

Department of Emergency Management

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$107,920,297

Contact: Gwen Keenan, David Halstead, Miles Anderson, Doug Wright monitor federal funding for the department, and they may be reached at (850) 413-9969.

Programmatic Obstacles: DEM may request from DFS a waiver on the number of requests for advance funds allowed in order to further assist local and state agencies more rapidly spend funds. Extending the grant end date is the only way to ensure more of the federal funds are spent.

Budgetary Obstacles: There are limitations on awards amounts, and then it is difficult to find state funding matches, and furthermore, there is a limitation on use of funds.

Department of Environmental Protection

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$190,267,707

Contact: Jennifer Fitzwater, Deputy Secretary for Policy and Planning, may be reached at (850) 245-2029.

Programmatic Obstacles: Many of the funding formulas rely on outdated population data. Additionally, these funding formulas fail to take into account the effects of tourism and seasonal residents when allocation of funds is based on population. Also, small state minimums and equal allocations work to the disadvantage of highly populous states such as Florida.

Budgetary Obstacles: There are federally imposed caps on awards. Also, state share stagnation negatively impacts the receipt of federal funds due to lack of state matching funds. Lastly, it is difficult to meet the in-kind match, and it can be difficult to track and document funds without a state cost allocation structure.

Department of Financial Services

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$6,547,043

Contact: Shajuana Jenkins, Division of Administration, (850) 413-2145; Mike Bannister, division of State Fire Marshall, (850) 413-2611; Jacki Lawhon, Division of Workers' Compensation, (850) 413-1621 all monitor federal funding for the department.

Programmatic Obstacles: None.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Department of Health

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$1,200,000,000

Contact: Roger Twitchell, Acting Chief Bureau of Revenue Management, monitors federal funding for the department and may be reached at (850) 245-4503.

Programmatic Obstacles: Project grants carry unique and different budget lines which limit the state's ability to consolidate and broaden program service deliveries. Also, the department stresses that it would ease the use of federal funds to streamline the federal grant appropriation process to convert more project grants into block grants. Also, the State Financial Service (FLAIR) is insufficient and falls short in meeting the needs for grant reporting; instead, DFS should implement a statewide business system for managing and tracking federal grant dollars.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$3,656,524

Contact: Stephen Gilmore, Administrator of the Enterprise Grant Office, monitors federal funding for the department, and may be reached at (850) 617-3145.

Programmatic Obstacles: There are instances that state needs do not match up with federal priorities. Additionally, it is difficult to determine the purpose and extent of federal funds awarded to other states so that the agency can best determine how to work cooperatively with other recipients or improve upon its own applications for federal funds. Also, federal funding applications can be unclear and confusing. State and federal budget cycles and fiscal years do not match up which makes it difficult to earn and expend federal funds. Lastly, the department stresses that it needs a more flexible budget authority for federal financial assistance.

Budgetary Obstacles: All of the agency's grants are reimbursement grants, which is very difficult to cover out of the department's coffers.

Department of Juvenile Justice

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$5,511,750

Contact: Bonnie Rogers, Chief of Staff, (850) 410-1902; and Vickie Harris, Budget Director, (850) 921-6412, monitor federal funding for the department.

Programmatic Obstacles: Medicaid is not allowed in residential secure programs, despite their main purpose as a rehabilitative and restorative resource. Medicaid is not allowed for out-patient treatment; and the concept of presumptive eligibility under Medicaid does not have a place in the juvenile justice system. Additionally, there are competing interests at the state level.

Budgetary Obstacles: There is a lack of availability of federal funds for department's programs; additionally, there is a lack of state matching funds available for the programs for which the department does qualify.

Department of Law Enforcement

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$12,813,794.70

Contact: Clayton Wilder, Sherry Gomez, Patricia Kent, and Joyce Burroughs monitor federal funding for the department. For questions, contact Clayton Wilder at (850) 617-1251.

Programmatic Obstacles: Federal funds cannot be used to supplant general revenue funds. Also, it is difficult to obtain budgetary approval in a timely manner. Additionally, there is not adequate staffing to account for and administer grant funds.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Department of Management Services

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$12,830,073.98

Contact: Karen Edwards; Division of Telecommunications; Michelle Wilson, Commission on Human Relations; Ronda Pearson, Bureau of Financial Management Services, monitor federal funding for the department, and they may be reached at (850) 488-2786.

Programmatic Obstacles: None.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Department of Military Affairs, Florida National Guard

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$30,833,808.00

Contact: Rita Segui (904) 823-0253; and Edward Bouza (904) 823-0203 monitor federal funding for the department.

Programmatic Obstacles: None.

Budgetary Obstacles: The agency receives federal funding through a cooperative agreement between the agency and the United States Property and Fiscal Office. Some agreements require a percentage of state-matching funds, and if the agency cannot meet its matching requirements, then it does not get the federal dollars.

Department of Revenue

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$228,377,533

Contact: Lia Mattuski, Chief of Planning and Budgeting, monitors federal funding for the agency, and may be reached at (850) 488-5009.

Programmatic Obstacles: None.

Budgetary Obstacles: It is difficult to match state funds to federal funds.

Department of State

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$9,857,179

Contact: John Boynton, Director, Division of Administrative Services, monitors federal funding for the department and may be reached at (850) 245-6605.

Programmatic Obstacles: It is difficult to reconcile the difference between the state and fiscal year spending authorities. Additionally, it is a challenge to secure budget authority for unanticipated and increased grant funding. Lastly, outdated formula distribution information from federal agencies makes it difficult to accurately and effectively apply for grant opportunities.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Department of Transportation

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$1,877,515,065

Contact: Marsha Johnson, Director of Financial Development, monitors federal funding for the department and may be reached at (850) 414-4649.

Programmatic Obstacles: DOT cannot always meet the requirements of some federal aid programs, such as matching requirements.

Budgetary Obstacles: The absence of available matching dollars in the state funds can prevent DOT from successfully competing for federal dollars; however, Florida is able to use toll credits in lieu of the matching requirement for most transportation projects.

Department of Veterans' Affairs

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$15,759,833.56

Contact: Chris Sanford, Professional Account Specialist, monitors Construction and Renovation Grants; Walter Gilchrist, Accounting Services Administrator, tracks federal per diem; and Dawn Spann, Budget Specialist, monitors weekly grant opportunities, and they may be reached at (727) 518-3202.

Programmatic Obstacles: There are no obstacles, but sometimes the follow up requirements are burdensome. Also, there are only limited federal funds available to the department.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Division of Administrative Hearings

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$0

Contact: Director and Chief Judge Robert Cohen, monitors federal funding for the division, and may be reached at (850) 488-9675.

Programmatic Obstacles: Division receives no federal funding; however, it does adjudicate cases that come from agencies that receive federal funding

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Executive Office of the Governor

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$544,646

Contact: William James and Andrew Bernard (Office of Drug Control); James Kallinger (Office of Child Advocacy); Dale Brill (Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development); Steve Adams/Andrew Mack (Florida Energy Office); additionally, EOG Acts as a fiscal agent for the Agency for Information Technology, and the contact person is Michael Russo. These individuals may be reached at (850) 488-7146.

Programmatic Obstacles: None.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$39,575,874.59

Contact: Bill Bibby, Grants Administrator, Finance and Budget Office; Karen Baggett, Assistant CFO; and Salwa Soliman, Grants Administrator. For questions, contact Salwa Soliman at (850) 488-4676.

Programmatic Obstacles: Florida currently does not maximize its potential to receive full federal allocation from the Sport fish Restoration and Wildlife Restoration grant programs administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Both programs allocate federal funding to states based on formulas that include a count of licensed recreational hunters and fishers as one of the elements of the formula. Florida could maximize its count by eliminating some of the current provisions in law that exempt recreational users from licensure requirements; also, elimination of the shoreline exemption in F.S. 379.353(2)(h,m) could increase Florida's share of the Federal Sport Fish Restoration grant fund.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Florida School for the Deaf & Blind

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$1,768,257.32

Contact: Kathy Shetler, Director of Advancement, monitors federal funding for the school, and may be reached at (904) 827-2210.

Programmatic Obstacles: The school has resolved the issue of being qualified as a Local Educational Agency (LEA) under Title I; however, currently, the school is not fully funded, and the school is not allowed to compete for funding. Some funding formulas, such as No Child Left Behind Title III, are restrictive due to allocation formulas, but they continue to monitor federal funding to which they might be entitled.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Justice Administration

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$28,149,061.01

Contact: Victoria Montanaro monitors federal funding for the department and may be reached at (850) 488-2415.

Programmatic Obstacles: Receiving federal funds requires additional state budget authority which delays the point at which the administration can use the funds. Also, the lack of staff to monitor available funding opportunities, and the inability to keep up with the additional voluminous record keeping inherent in receiving additional grants, makes it difficult for the administration to pursue additional opportunities.

Budgetary Obstacles: It is difficult to find matching state dollars. Also, some funding requires that the agency put out the money and later receive reimbursement which stretches the agency's financial resources.

Lottery

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$0

Contact: CFO Marcy Jackson (850) 487-7716 monitors federal funding for the department.

Programmatic Obstacles: There is no known federal funding for lotteries.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Parole Commission

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$0

Contact: Gina Giacomo, Director of Administration, monitors federal funding for the commission and may be reached at (985) 488-3415.

Programmatic Obstacles: Most federal funding is for a target population, and the Commission has very limited target populations.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Public Service Commission

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$0

Contact: Mary Andrews Bane, Executive Director, monitors federal funding for the department and may be reached at (850) 413-6068.

Programmatic Obstacles: None.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

State Board of Administration

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$0

Contact: Gwenn Thomas, COO, monitors federal funding for the administration and may be reached at (850) 488-4406.

Programmatic Obstacles: There are no federal grant opportunities available within the scope of the agency's tasks and responsibilities.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

State Courts System

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$7,699,798.92

Contact: Elisabeth Goodner, State Courts Administrator, along with members of the Office of Court Improvement, monitor federal funding and may be reached at (850) 922-5081.

Programmatic Obstacles: A majority of federal funding is aimed at state agencies and the services they provide, and the State Court System does not fit that model. Additionally, it does not have enough staff to meet the deliverable requirements of the grants that are available or enough staff to seek out grant opportunities.

Budgetary Obstacles: Cuts to the judicial branch have made it difficult to meet match requirements.

Volunteer Florida (Housed w/in EOG)

Federal Funding State FY 07-08: \$10,777,166.00

Contact: Wendy Spencer, CEO (850) 414-0092 and Alex Amparo, Director of Legislative Affairs, Emergency Management (850) 414-2977 monitor federal funding.

Programmatic Obstacles: None.

Budgetary Obstacles: None.

Appendix 2 Federal Grants Website

Grants.gov: A One-Stop Shop for Federal Grant Opportunities

Grants.gov was established under the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999.¹ On the Web site, managed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, each of the government's 26 agencies post available grants. Additionally, the Web site facilitates the grant process for applicants at every step, from finding grant opportunities, registering with the site, applying for grants, and tracking the application, as well as providing resources for applicants. Applicants and grantors alike can get up-to-date information from the Grants.gov blog, as well as from the site's quarterly newsletter, "Succeed." According to the most recent data, more than 1,000 programs² representing almost \$470 billion³ available in federal financial assistance can be accessed from one Web site.⁴

In the creation of the Web site, designers took into consideration the frustrations that applicants had regarding the grant application process and attempted to make a user-friendly interactive online structure. Also, it is easy for users to suggest improvements to the site by submitting an enhancement form to site managers. Most recently, the site updated its functioning capabilities, increasing the number of concurrent users to 2,000 and streamlining the applicant registration process.⁵

¹ Pub. L. 106-107 (1999). Public Law 106-107 has since sunset and is now known as the Grants Policy Committee (GPC) 03 Mar. 2009 http://www.grants.gov/aboutgrants/streamlining_initiatives.jsp and www.gpc.com; Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations (LCIR), Review of Federal Funding to Florida in Fiscal Year 2007. (Tallahassee: The State of Florida, 2008) 13-14.

² Grants.gov "What Is a Grant?" 03 Mar. 2009 <<http://www.grants.gov/aboutgrants/grants.jsp>>; LCIR, 13-14.

³ U.S. Census Bureau, Consolidated Federal Funds Report, 03 Mar. 2009 <<http://www.census.gov/govs/www/cffr.html>>.

⁴ LCIR, 13-14.

⁵ Grants.gov, Applicant Enhancements: System Build 2008-03, 2009: 3. 03 Mar. 2009 <http://www.grants.gov/assets/SystemEnhancements2008-03A_S2S.pdf>.